

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kikuchi et al.

Art Unit: [to be assigned]

Application No.: [to be assigned]

Examiner: [to be assigned]

Filing Date: [on even date herewith]

Attorney Ref. No.: US-111

For: Methods for Secretory Production of
Proteins

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to taking up this new patent application for action on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

As the first paragraph of the specification below the title, please add the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of application PCT/JP02/02978, filed March 27, 2003.

On page 57, following the last paragraph, please add the following paragraph:
Each of the aforementioned documents, as well as the foreign priority document, Japan 2001-98808, filed March 30, 2001, are hereby incorporated by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-11, and add claim 12 as follows: